

BARRICADA

REVOLUTIONARY LEFTIST PUBLICATION OF THE BARRICADA COLLECTIVE

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NOVEMBER 2000

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COLOMBIA

PRISONER SOLIDARITY

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ELECTIONS

AND MORE...

**NO RETREAT
NO SURRENDER**

BARRICADA 1, OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2000

“La Barricada Cierra la Calle, Pero Abre el Camino”

BARRICADA COLLECTIVE STATEMENT

Barricada is a non-partisan, non-hierarchical collective within the radical leftist spectrum with the principle aim of producing and distributing revolutionary propaganda and news.

We work to build class-consciousness through the distribution of radical left wing culture and ideas as an alternative to the state and the capitalist system. To this end we distribute pamphlets, flyers, newsletters, and other forms of propaganda, as well as participating in initiatives which are in line with our general ideas and beliefs.

The Barricada collective opposes electoral politics, the party system, and representative democracy, because we see them as cheapening true democracy and serving to take power and initiative away from the hands of people. We are also opposed to reformist alternatives aimed at making superficial changes to what we view as an inherently flawed system.

We are opposed to nationalism and other artificial divisions of the working class. However, we are also anti-imperialists and as such support oppressed peoples in their struggles of national liberation providing that they maintain a revolutionary leftist character. At the same time we bear in mind that this is not our ideal situation, as our wish is not to see the emergence of more states and borders but instead a stateless, classless society based on the principals of mutual aid, direct democracy, freely federated community structures, and workers self-management.

To this end we justify and encourage the pursuit of the class war, including but not limited to, direct action, workplace sabotage, property damage, mass confrontation, and civil disobedience. We believe that the issue of revolutionary violence should be viewed from a tactical standpoint rather than an ideological one. This said, we believe that the creation of a “culture of resistance,” where the state and all other enemies of the working class are at no time safe, is an essential aspect of any social movement, serving to empower people as well as creating an atmosphere ideal for class warfare.

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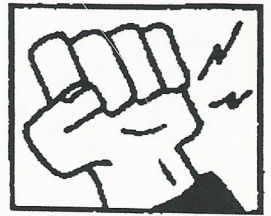
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Please feel free to donate all articles, comments, letters* or other sorts of contributions.

Note: We will print all letters provided we do not find them to be particularly offensive for the obvious reasons (sexist, racist, homophobic, etc.) or simply downright not worthy of space.

NEWS AND REPORTS



CATALUNYA: THOUSANDS FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIALISM, AGAINST SPANISH

Over 4000 people demonstrated in Barcelona on October 12th against the "Dia de la Hispanidad," which celebrates Spanish national identity and pride. The demonstration went by in relative calm, in contrast to last year's events in which hundreds clashed with police defending the fascist, pro-Spanish rally in the Plaza Paissos Catalans (of all places). The demonstrators, principally made up of left-wing Catalan separatists and anarchists, set up barricades in the street, as well as causing significant damage to banks, temporary employment agencies, and other capitalist properties. Thirty seven people were arrested and 12 still face trial.

No such events occurred this year. The only incidents of note were the few fascist stragglers, some with Spanish flags, that were spotted along the way and quickly dealt with, as well as their flags which were promptly burnt.

Year after year Spanish fascists have assembled in the Plaza Paissos Catalans in attempts to continue staking their claim to Catalunya and justifying Spanish imperialism. However, after the incidents of 1998, in which a policeman lost an eye, and 1999 the police decided to ban all political demonstrations in the Plaza Paissos Catalans this year. Instead they gave fascists permission to rally in Montjuic, a suburb on the outskirts of Barcelona easily controllable due to it's few access points. Despite the heavy police protection, only 400 fascists bothered to show up at the rally.

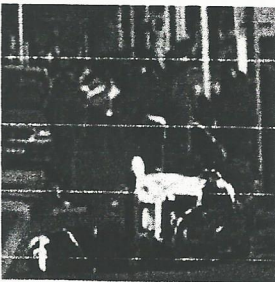
EUSKADI: HUNDREDS CONFRONT FRENCH OCCUPATION FORCES AT EU SUMMIT

Several hundred Basque radicals battled police in Bayonne near the informal European Union summit on Friday and Saturday, October 13th and 14th.

The clashes began on Friday after French CRS (riot police)

blocked the path of over 2000 Basque separatists marching to the summit site. Several

hundred confronted the police with rocks and dozens of Molotov cocktails while using cars and garbage bins to make barricades in the streets while singing Basque revolutionary songs.

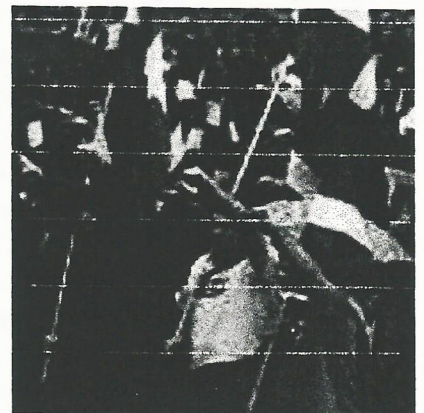


The masked demonstrators carried out actions against several banks, store windows, and luxury cars, attacked a police station, effectively hospitalizing three policemen, intercepted four busses carrying summit delegates, and pursued several journalists from mainstream media, guilty of helping to justify the criminalization of the Basque separatist struggle.

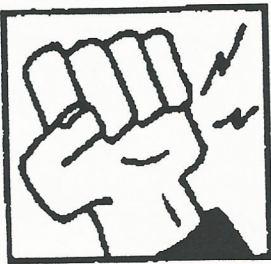
The clashes continued overnight as people smashed yet more shop windows and continued resisting police tear gas attacks.

On Saturday after 3,000 people demonstrated for Basque independence and socialism clashes began again. Forty

masked militants managed to take up a position on a bridge inside Biarritz, where all demonstrations had been banned, and hold it for over an hour through the use of Molotov cocktails and stones. Overall police arrested slightly over 100 people over the two days.



GORA EUSKADI ASKATUTA



NEWS AND REPORTS

DEMONSTRATIONS IN BOSTON

AGAINST THE DEBATES, THE ELECTIONS, AND THE WHOLE DAMN SYSTEM

Several thousand people took to the streets on October 3rd in Boston during the presidential debates. Despite what the corporate, and unfortunately some independent sectors as well, media may say, the demonstrators were not all there to support the millionaire union-buster Ralph Nader.

The first event of the day was dubbed the "Freedom for Sale Trail," during which, after a rally full of the usual electoral/reformist talking, over 200 people made their way through Boston's financial district during the height of the business day. On their way demonstrators stopped at the offices of such popular favorites as Verizon, Fidelity Investments, and others. The demonstrators, who were made up mainly of Greens, anarchists, Marxists, and Socialists, ended the march in front of the state house.

The next large mobilization was scheduled for 5pm. Approximately 3000 people marched from Dudley square through the predominantly black and Latino working class neighborhood of Dorchester to UMASS demanding freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal. The march was relatively lively and

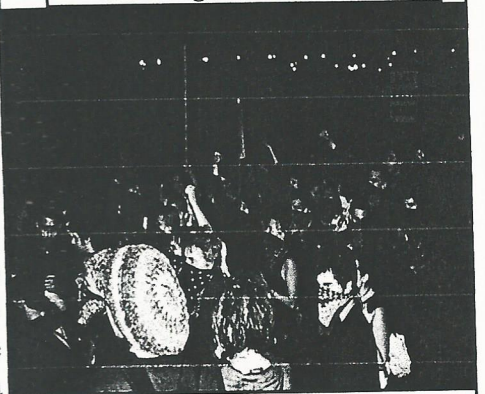
well spirited, and reactions from onlookers were mixed. Important to note is the unfortunate fact that many Green Party supporters felt compelled to show a total lack of respect for Mumia and the demonstration organizers by chanting pro-Nader slogans all through the demonstration.

The situation began to get a little tense as the march neared UMASS. At one point it seemed the police were going to block the march's access to the debate while still on the street. In response the black bloc finally assembled and a group of about 60 moved to the front creating two lines of people with arms linked ready to take action and attempt to move past the police. However, it was unnecessary at this point as the police were only blocking one half of the street. Also, when arriving there were several brushes with pro-Gore factions leading to several fistfights and arrests.

Once in the "protest area" the black bloc assembled to decide what steps to take next. It was decided to attempt to rush the police barricades in order to get closer to the debate site. This led to a conflict lasting about ten minutes during which the police used batons and pepper spray to hold the line while the black bloc fought back however it could. Police also attempted to make several arrests by

pulling people over the barricades. Several were successfully de-arrested but the police managed to take 3 people.

The crowd gathered at UMASS



Afterwards the non-violent demonstrators decided that they were going to walk over the barricades peacefully and "walk to the debate." Needless to say they were promptly pepper sprayed and many were arrested.

After these events, which occurred at around 9pm, everything settled down for the next few hours as people milled around wondering what to do next. Unfortunately at one point it seemed that the day's events were over and many, including a decent portion of the black bloc, began to leave. However, at approximately 11pm demonstrators took the police by surprise knocking over the barricades and pouring

NEWS AND REPORTS



Boston Continued...

onto the street where they sat down, effectively blocking them. While this was occurring people were taking the metal police barricades and using them to serve as a second line of defense against the riot police by putting them across the road and stacking them.

Pacifists surrendering to police



Simultaneously, others were using metal barricades to block cars containing members of the secret service.

This standoff lasted for about a half an hour, when the riot police finally advanced on the non-violent demonstrators sitting in front of the barricades. Once they were arrested the black bloc, which did not act before because those same demonstrators requested to be arrested, began to act, attempting to

defend the barricade through more militant methods. However, due to the lack of support, the small numbers, and the pathological pacifists interfering yelling "no violence," the police were eventually able to take the barricade. However, by this time another line of non-violent demonstrators had assembled just a little further back and managed to keep the road closed a little while longer. Unfortunately, by then word spread that everybody attending the debate had been evacuated through an alternate road already and the street blockade was not serving any particular purpose. Thirty-six people were eventually arrested and charged with misdemeanors. Everybody had been released by 6 am the next day.

All in all it could be said that the protests in Boston were a relative success considering the organizing problems (splits between organizing groups) and the difficulties encountered due to the fact that Bush did not confirm his participation until weeks before the scheduled date of the demonstrations.

Unfortunate to note however were the usual problems encountered by those, anarchist or not, black bloc

or not, to engage in forms of direct action other than non-violent civil disobedience. With their usual disrespect for the tactics of others and their moral authoritarianism, some, although it must be noted that these were a minority, insisted on interfering by purposely standing between people and police, flapping their arms about in front of people while police were attacking, and one was even seen interfering with a de-arrest.

Barricada feels it is important to note that we do not place any form of protest or resistance above another, choosing instead to analyze individual situations and adjust tactics accordingly. However, we cannot but view those who choose to interfere with others during times of risk, and to top it all off later go on to criticize and ridicule them, with what are in many cases outright lies, as our enemies. Again, we reiterate that we think a unity in action between different forms of protest is ideal, but cannot see people who purposefully endanger others and serve to complicate the already hard enough task in the US of breaking out of the pacifist pathology mindset as being on our side.

Nicolas, Barricada Collective



NEWS AND REPORTS

S26 NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

STATEMENT FROM THE BARRICADA COLLECTIVE ON PRAGUE S26

The events in Prague on September 26th, where thousands of brave revolutionaries from around Europe and the world, confronted the thousands of police defending the IMF fatcats in their fortress, are well known by just about everyone by now. People, in great European style, used all sorts of militant direct action to effectively scare the IMF into shutting down its meeting a day early, as well as canceling its nighttime gala event. This was accomplished through the mass use of the only language the state and capitalism understand. The language of violence. The undeniable fact remains that, despite the very re-

grettable statements released by INPEG trying to depoliticize the actions, that it was not people sitting down and allowing police to manhandle them that shut down the meeting. It was people, like the Blue Block and Ya Basta for example, using direct action and taking conscience of their power to go on the offensive and refuse to be stopped or voluntarily arrested and/or brutalized by police.

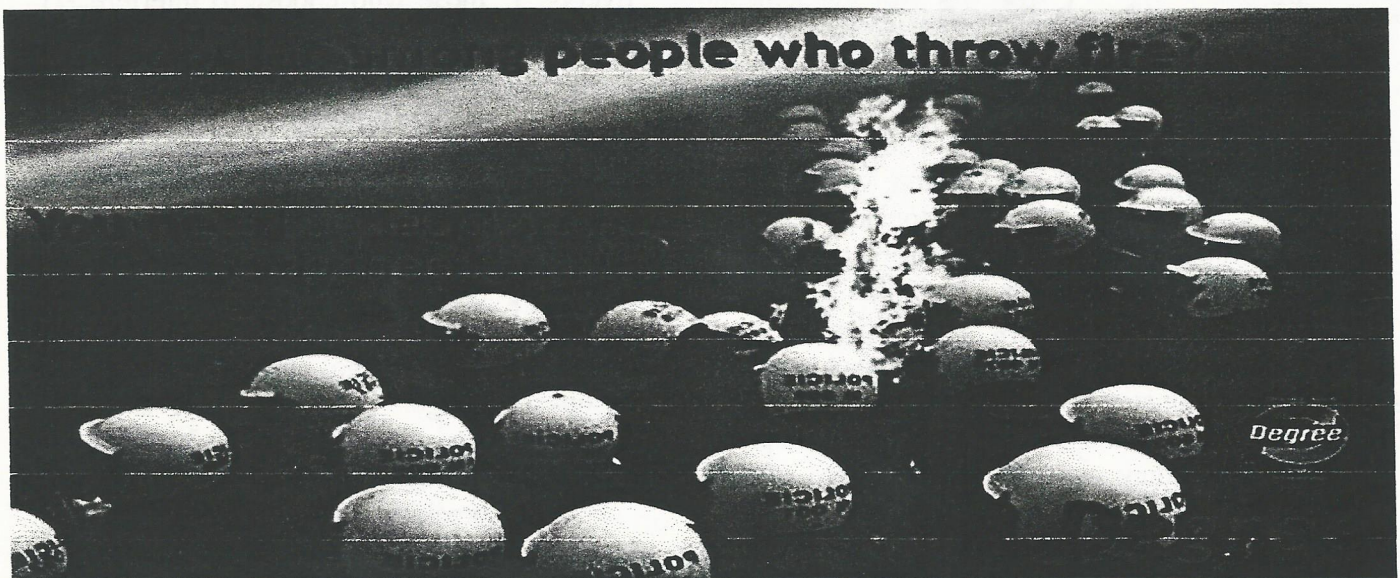
While it is true that the media took a negative view of the events, that should surprise nobody. The corporate media will never take the side of a movement that attacks its very foundations. The revolutionary movement must give up on pan-

dering to the corporate press and instead focus its energy wholly on alternative media outlets and projects, such as Undercurrents and IMC for example.

Prague was a sensational victory for the revolutionary left, regardless of what the pacifists and the media may try to say. Now we must focus our attention on obtaining freedom for those who face charges stemming from the Prague demonstrations and on organizing to repeat the scenario in Ohio, Quebec City, and elsewhere.

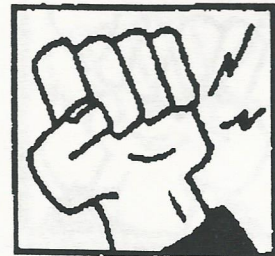
For the class war and the classless stateless society,

The Barricada Collective



THE CORRECT WAY TO DEAL WITH CLASS TRAITORS

NEWS AND REPORTS



Besides the already well known events in Prague, people took to the streets throughout the world to oppose the IMF and the World Bank. Here are summaries of just a few of the events...

Wellington: The Carnival Against Capital, consisting of approximately 150 people, was attacked by police after people occupied a branch of the Westpac Bank. The police eventually arrested 13 people.

Washington DC: Around 400 people demonstrated in support of striking parking lot workers and their attempts to unionize. Police arrested 35 people after they rushed the street to form a line of bodies and blocked the street. The action then ended with a short.

Moscow: About 40 anarchists and anti-capitalists marched through one of Moscow's main streets to the offices of the World bank in a demonstration of protest against capitalist globalization and a show of solidarity with comrades marching in Prague, who are reported to have blocked Russian vice-premier Alexey Kudrin from entering the congress hall where the IMF/WB summit convenes. During the march, which was banned by authorities, protesters chanted anti-capitalist slogans, blew whistles and leafleted pedestrians. Police eventually arrested 6 people, causing the demonstrators to march to the police station in solidarity.

Tel Aviv: Demonstrators, numbering over 1000, marched through a sector of the financial district and participated in street theater. The march, organized by anarchists, communists, Greens, and other radicals marks a significant increase in radical activity, as n30 activities drew only about 60 people and a16 approximately 120.

Stockholm: Approximately 200 anti-globalization activists and leftist youth demonstrated in Stockholm on the evening of September 26th. The demonstration began in the workers quarter of Sodermalm and eventually made it's way to the Old Town, where the chants against the IMF turned the heads of shoppers and tourists.

Just as the demo was to enter the large square in front of the Bourse, K9 police stopped the demo and riot police began to immediately seal off all the entries into the square with portable riot fences. The demonstrators stood their ground in the alley in which they were standing while a police van drove into the alley from the rear. Nearby, on the grounds of the Royal Palace, approximately fifteen police vehicles waited for orders. After circa ten minutes the entire area was sealed of and the demo began to dissolve as the police van in the rear pulled away. The planned speeches and street theatre in front of the Bourse never occurred.

The police action was unprovoked and seemed to be without any real goal, other than, in true "fire alarm style", practice crowd control and the quick closing-off of an entire city area. And of course, letting the people know who's in control. And we know that that's not always the case!

Today Prague, Next stop Gothenburg 2001!

Hartford: Hundreds of Connecticut activists joined forces today for a mass march and rally to demonstrate U.S. support for the Global Day of Action in Prague against the IMF and the World Bank. "S26" will also mark support for the Connecticut Justice for Janitors campaign.

The event, which was carried out without a permit and coordinated by the Connecticut Global Action Network, included direct action, civil disobedience, and dramatic street theater.

Montreal: Between 100-150 demonstrators gathered as part of the International Day Against Capitalism (S26), and in solidarity with the protests against the IMF and the World Bank in Prague and worldwide. The demonstration, led by banners such as "Smash Capitalism Before it Smashes You" and "Rebellion is a Right! Down with Capitalism" ended at the stock exchange tower in the heart of the financial district. However, this was only after having to divert from the planned route after police blocked a street with a local McDonalds outlet on it that was vandalized during last March's demonstration against police brutality (two banks were also attacked during that



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same demo in which over 100 were arrested and charged with "participating in a riot").

S26 in Montreal follows up on the last International Day Against Capitalism on May 1st. On that day, a group of about 200 anarchists crammed four buses and headed up the mountain to Westmount, a famously rich neighborhood in Montreal. The slogan of the action was "deranger les riches dans leurs niches" [tr: "bother the rich in their niche"]. That demo became a cat-and-mouse game with the riot squad, and eventually over 150 people were arrested. Their cases are still pending, and due to go to trial later this fall.

Berkeley: Four to five hundred demonstrators assembled for a Reclaim the Streets action and a subsequent march. The festive RTS atmosphere was followed by a large march during which a branch of the California Federal Bank was smashed as well as a Citibank and a burning carton was thrown at a McDonalds front. One person was arrested and charged with a felony.

Malmö: During the late evening on the 26th of September "some autonome anti-imperialists in Malmö" crushed all the windows to the several bank offices around the square Nydalatorget, central Malmö. The press release ties the action with the days happenings in Prague and the IMF's help in oppressing the third world and ends with the slogan "Strengthen the revolutionary anti-imperialist resistance - for communism".

Sao Paulo: Over 1,500 people demonstrated against capitalism and the IMF. Police attempted to arrest people after a glass panel commemorating the creation of the stock exchange was smashed. A pitched battle ensued when demonstrators attempted to free arrestees, prompting one panicked policeman to fire several shots in the air while pleading with demonstrators to "take it easy." The march, down to half of its original size, then continued to the Municipal Theatre Hall where artistic poetry, street theater, and other performances were planned.

Toronto: About 200 people marched to the financial district, yet unfortunately chose to remain on the sidewalk. One person was arrested as the demonstration commenced, it was later learned this was due to his alleged participation in the police riot during an anti-poverty demonstration during the summer. After the march finished its planned route people headed to the police station where the man was being held in order to demand his release.

Portland, OR: Over 20 people were arrested during an unauthorized march through the streets of Portland. Streets were blocked for well over an hour and police were pelted with eggs, bottles, and other assorted items through the course of the demonstration and police responded with the use of pepper spray.

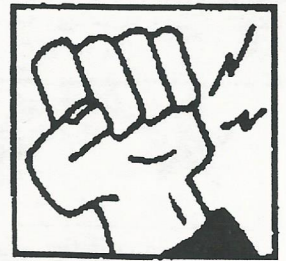
Melbourne: Yesterday in Melbourne, Australia, 300 marched against the police violence at the S11 protest and in Solidarity with our Comrades in Prague on the S26 demonstrations. Speeches were made attacking the Social-Democratic premier, who fully backed the police action and emphasizing the international nature of the fight against corporate rule.

Demonstrations or different forms of action, that we know of, also occurred in Kiev, New Delhi, Boston, Gainesville, Belo Horizonte, Frankfurt, Denver, Stavanger, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Providence, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Palm Beach, Tucson, and Bombay.

GLOBALIZE RESISTANCE, NOT CAPITAL.



NEWS AND REPORTS



SUMMARY OF GREEK ANARCHIST ACTIVITIES

The Greek anarchist movement, a great example in class war and resistance, has been keeping as busy as ever. Here is a brief summary of their recent actions...

-12/23/99: Over 400 anarchists demonstrate in Athens against the war in Chechnya. Interesting to note that only the anarchists actively opposed the war in Chechnya, while most left wing organizations and peace groups remained quiet.

-1/14/00: One thousand people participate in a demonstration in Athens against educational reform. At the end of the demonstration a van belonging to ALTEC (an informative company) is set on fire. Dozens then barricade themselves inside the Polytechnic institute and confront the police with stones and petrol bombs. Later on 10 people are arrested, suspected of participating in the action, in nearby streets. Eight are released the next day but two, K.Karpouzios and P. Katsilas, remain detained, accused of being "active anarchists" and on file for their actions. Both refuse all charges and begin a hunger strike as of January 18th.

-03/04/00: A solidarity march for the hunger strikers is violently attacked by the police. While withdrawing demonstrators counter with stones and petrol bombs and several luxury cars are destroyed. After one hour of battle, 9 demonstrators are arrested. While heading to the police station the rest of the demonstrators spot a "cop-special guard" who is beaten and his car destroyed.

Two days later 100 anarchists occupy the Philosophic School of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki in solidarity with the hunger strikers and the recently arrested demonstrators.

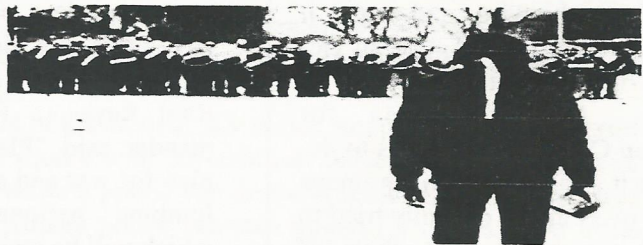
The demonstrators are released on the seventh while the hunger strikers are released on bail the 10th, after 57 days of hunger striking.

-03/25/00: An immigrant suspected of theft is shot to death by the police in Thessaloniki. The

next day 60 people attack the old city police station, where the murderer serves, in protest. The entrance, as and several police cars are severely damaged, and ten suspects, mainly anarchists, are arrested.

Two days later 400 people demonstrate outside the Ministry of Macedonia-Thrace. One of their demands being the release of the arrested anarchists. The demonstrators withdrew after meeting the released anarchists and expressing their gratefulness for their actions.

-04/09/00: An un-occupied building is squatted in Mitilini, Lesbos by the local anti-authoritarian group. Despite the good relation between the squatters and the community, the



owner has them evicted at the hands of the police on May 4th.

Two self-managed centers were also opened in Athens during the month of April.

-07/04/00: 300 youths riot outside the venue where Rage Against the Machine was performing. Numerous arrests are made by the police, including that of N.Nikolaïdis. He is found with anarchist pamphlets in his pockets and held by the police.

-09/05/00: Three motorbikes stop at Papagou police station, in Athens, around midnight setting two police cars on fire. An anarchist group, Anarchist Attack, later takes responsibility for the action.

US IMPERIALISM IN COLOMBIA



THE ROAD TO ANOTHER VIETNAM



Once again the shadow of US intervention looms large over Latin America, this time in the form of a 1.3 billion-dollar "aide" package, dubbed 'Plan Colombia,' recently approved by the US senate. This latest attack on Latin American sovereignty, an attack against the progressive sectors of Colombia disguised as a war against drug trafficking, threatens to make of Colombia the next Vietnam, as well as jeopardize the stability of the entire region. The true aims of 'Plan Colombia' are to destroy the Colombian revolutionary movement through a military offensive spearheaded by US strategic direction and technology in order to make Colombia safe for investment, legal or otherwise, and make it yet another Latin American victim of neocolonialism.

US propaganda for 'Plan Colombia' attempts to depict it as a social plan, an image the mass media dutifully tried to sell the world with shots of Clinton dancing folk music and playing with Colombian children. However, the truth is that it is a recipe for an all out war. Most of the 1.3 billion dollars in aide is military, such as sending advisors to help in counter-insurgency matters (the same "advisors" that were sent to Vietnam), or the 60 black hawk helicopters that are being provided to the Colombian military. Interesting to note is the fact that the US "defenders of democracy" have no qualms about making a military with one of the worst human rights records in the world and exten-

sive ties to paramilitary death squads it's third largest aide recipient (the first two are Egypt and Turkey, not precisely "bastions of democracy" themselves) when it suits them. Yet it is these same decision-makers that bomb nations into ruins for not respecting human rights.

The only thing that can be achieved by 'Plan Colombia' is to give the Colombian military the confidence boost it needs, tempting it once again to attempt an all out war against the insurgents, something the rebel movement has already made clear it will not accept. The FARC-EPs (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army) declaring Clinton "persona non-grata" in Colombia and the subsequent attacks against police and military posts the day of Clinton's visit made this quite clear. As Raul Reyes, a FARC-EP commander, said, "Plan Colombia is a plan for war and an attack on Colombian national sovereignty, which will be resisted as such."

Through its inevitable escalation of the conflict 'Plan Colombia' edges Colombia closer and closer to a Vietnam scenario. All the elements are already in place. The hundreds of US advisors, the military aide, the propaganda about the "Red Threat," only this time thinly veiled as a drug war in order to appease public opinion which would most likely not support such an endeavor. Finally, last week what confirmed to all that the US is bent on making of Colombia another Vietnam, when Clinton said, "Colombia is not Vietnam," to many it sounded a lot like Ken-

nedy's "this [Vietnam] is not Korea" statement.

The consequences of this are evident. 'Plan Colombia,' through the indiscriminate use of chemical and biological substances and the escalation of the armed conflict will mean threats to the health and well being of the general Colombian population, crops, and environment, a massive forced exodus of peasants (there are already over 1 million internally displaced people in Colombia), and a destabilization of the entire region (Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, and Venezuela) as rebels attempt to regroup in regions outside the reach of Plan Colombia. Furthermore, as the ties between the 5,000 member strong United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, otherwise known as extreme right paramilitary death squads, and the Colombian military are well known, money that goes to the military is also money that goes to the paramilitaries. This can only mean a strengthening of their confidence and capabilities, which will mean more attacks on guerrillas, labor figures, and political organizers, as well as more massacres of innocent peasants, as in the eyes of the paramilitaries all peasants are potential communists, hence better off dead. The risks of 'Plan Colombia' are so obvious that even one of the US' greatest allies in endeavors of imperialist destruction and war mongering, Great Britain, is expressing doubts about its viability. British cabinet member Mo Mowlam voiced concern about 'Plan Colombia,' citing the military's poor human rights records and

the risks to the Colombian population.

Evidently the US is not blind to all this, and there is a purpose to the madness. However, it certainly does not involve making Colombia "safe for democracy" or ending the drug trade. How could it when the US and the Colombian oligarchy are key elements of the drug trade? The fact that great scandals are made over the small peasant farmers who grow coca on their small plots of land in southern Colombia in order to subsist, while nothing is said of the huge plantations of the drug lords which operate with paramilitary protection shows that US interests lie in destroying rival drug trade competitors rather than actually eliminating the drug trade. Clear proof of this lies in the fact that it is precisely US business that makes producing coca more profitable for Colombian peasants than other crops. The US is the number one consumer of Colombian cocaine, and the fact of the matter is that it is simply more profitable to make narcotics for Americans than to produce anything else.

The US' 'Plan Colombia' aims to achieve several things for American business interests. On one hand it aims to drown the Colombian revolutionary movement, thus making Colombia a safe place for the implementation of the neo-liberal economic policies which are already ravaging most of Latin America, maximizing investor profits while at the same time destroying public service sectors, attacking workers rights, endangering free higher education, increasing unemployment, and destroying national identities and cultures. On the other hand it aims to assert

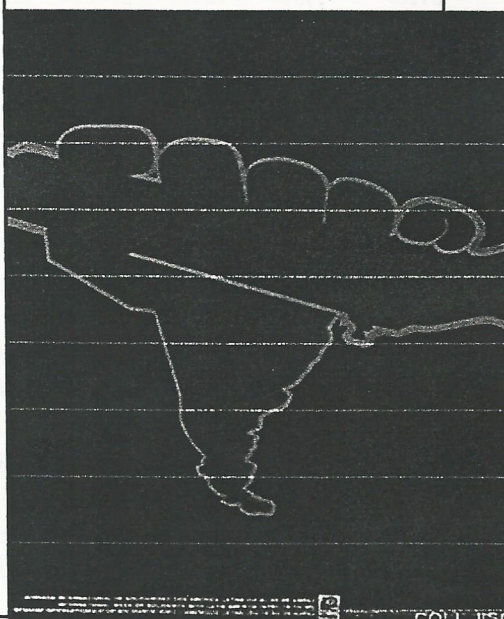
Washington's dominance over the region, crushing any that do not bow to neo-liberalism and "democracy," in much the same fashion as with the attack on Yugoslavia, which protected nobody and served only to destroy the Yugoslav economic infrastructure, in the hopes of creating future investment opportunities, in much the same fashion as will happen in Colombia. Finally, Plan Colombia aims to consolidate once and for all the power of the Colombian oligarchy and Colombian status quo, which means poverty, hunger, ignorance and misery for the people of Colombia.

The great lengths to which the US is prepared to go to crush the Colombian revolution serve to prove one thing. Despite all the talk about the "defeat of communism" and the "end of history," the US ruling class remains deathly afraid of revolution and the people. 'Plan Colombia' is only the latest of many examples of this. It is a Plan not to combat any evil, but to subdue a people in revolt and consolidate US business interests, as usual, at the expense of the Latin American people. However, if it is another Vietnam that the US wants, it is another Vietnam that they shall have. As Vietnam demonstrated, it is not with money and technology alone that wars are won. The mountains of Colombia are inhospitable terrain which nobody manages better than the guerrillas, and short of an all out bombing campaign there is nothing that can be done to change that. The Colombian resistance has already shown it's will and ability to withstand unfavorable odds and has vowed not to allow the US to write yet another page of defeat in Latin American his-

tory. Their struggle has survived for 36 years precisely because of the fact that they are fighting to correct undeniable wrongs in Colombian society. They are an army of the people, and as such cannot be defeated simply by injecting some money and technology into the Colombian army. US intervention will only sway people further to the side of the rebels and lead Colombia into an all out civil war, the outcome of which is uncertain to say the least, but the creation of another Cuba is not unfeasible, or undesirable, as it would mean the liberation of one more Latin American nation from neoliberalism and colonialism.

Nicolas, Barricada Collective

**POR UNA AMERICA
LATINA LIBRE Y
SOCIALISTA
FUERA YANKIS**





US ELECTIONS



WHAT DEBATES? WHAT DEMOCRACY?

On Tuesday, October 3rd the first presidential debate took place at UMASS Boston. This "debate" between the two representatives of the parties of the ruling class served as a perfect illustration of the fact that the US' "vibrant democracy" is in fact nothing more than a hollow corporate dictatorship. A corporate dictatorship carefully engineered to faithfully represent and defend the interests of the US ruling class at the expense of the American people.

According to the American Heritage Dictionary to debate is to "engage in argument by discussing opposing points." This leads one to wonder, where are the opposing points in a "debate" in which both of the participants stem from the same class, have the same sponsors, defend the same interests, and essen-

tially see eye to eye on most issues? Simply, there are none. Both candidates support corporate managed trade and deals which undermine workers rights and job security (NAFTA, WTO, IMF), both have made fortunes off taxpayer subsidized businesses (Gore's agribusiness and Bush's baseball stadiums and oil), both will continue to pay generous

**WHOEVER THEY VOTE FOR
WE ARE UNGOVERNABLE**

CEO salaries with taxpayer subsidies, both are sponsored by corporate donors, both will uphold the embargo against Cuba, and both are among the richest 5% of the country.

All these similarities are not a coincidence. The American "democracy" depends on money, and those who have the most of it are the corporations and the ruling class. It is therefore they who control the political process and decide what is and what isn't an

"important campaign issue," reducing the common citizen to a mere spectator, asked only to cheer for one or another puppet every four years. As long as political parties and campaigns are tied to big business interests, this will never change. It only takes a quick glance at the business media to realize that capitalists are fully aware of this. On September 4th Business week quoted Mark Ritter, an economist at First Union Capital Markets in Charlotte, NC, who couldn't have said it any better: "Business knows not to pay much attention to what politicians say during an election campaign, because they'll say anything to get elected." They know it, and so should we.

Elections give you the power to choose between two sides of the same coin. However, they do not empower you to change the system or to participate directly in society's decision making process. Candidates often offer attractive agen-

das for change to the general public, while taking their orders straight from the corporate fatcats that finance them. Given all this, it is not surprising that a large sector of society, particularly minorities who, with good reason, do not feel their interests are represented by upper class white males, have become alienated from the mainstream parties and the political process.

As a reaction to this, many turn to third party candidates. One such candidate who many view as an alternative to Bush and Gore that will better represent the interests of workers, women, minorities, etc. is Ralph Nader. While it is true that the Nader campaign isn't tied to corporate interests like Bush and Gore's are, the fact remains that Nader is a union buster, a millionaire, and a capitalist trying to achieve the impossible, reform capitalism. Furthermore, his campaign

emphasizes electoralism and lobbying, rather than a popular movement based on struggle, and as such is no different from any other party building effort.

Democracy is meant to be the tool and the weapon of the people to control their own lives by putting power to make the decisions that affect them into their own hands. Representative democracy does precisely the opposite. It takes power away from the people, transferring a popular phenomenon into the hands of a privileged elite who manipulate it as they see fit to suit their needs. However, there is an alternative to this game.

That alternative is active resistance to the electoral process. Voting only helps to legitimize their game, so why do so? Rather, create democracy everyday in your community by participating in neighborhood organizations, creating mutual aid

groups to carry out as a community what politicians said they would do and didn't, insisting on democratic union structures in your workplace, and rather than write letters begging politicians to do something for you, take to the streets and demand to be heard. Your numbers and your strength, as people, as students, and most importantly as workers, are your tools, and properly used they are invincible. The events in Prague are only the latest of the countless examples of this. It is everybody's job to work towards making this the scenario encountered by the state and capitalism everywhere they attempt to perpetuate their scam, because real democracy lives on the streets, in communities, and in the workplace, not in parliaments and statehouses.

**Nicolas
B a r r i c a d a
Collective**



NEWS FROM THE UNDERGROUND

The Barricada Collective feels that it is important to provide information about, and support to, those who have come into direct conflict with the state due to their ideas and convictions. In consequence we are printing the following statement from a revolutionary on the run in the US...

COMMUNIQUE FROM A WANTED BLACK BLOC ANARCHIST

Communique # 1
From a Wanted Black Bloc Anarchist

On Monday, August 1, during the Republican National Convention, in the city of Philadelphia, I was arrested along with one other brother in a preemptive strike ostensibly aimed at those, like myself, who intended to protest the U. S social/political system through means of direct and uncompromising action later that day.

While walking down the sidewalk in downtown, we were surrounded by 10-15 bike cops and soon after put into custody at the Roundhouse jail complex. This all occurred an hour and a half prior to any known acts of civil disobedience, street fighting, corporate/private property destruction or legal demonstrations.

At the Roundhouse, I was charged with (1) Possession of instruments of crime, and (2) Possession of instruments of crime, conspiracy. My bail was eventually set at \$10,000, and on Wednesday, August 3, I was turned out pending further court hearings, despite the fact that I refused to sign my release forms.

Solidarity

My court date is set for September 16th. By the time this communique is made public, I will already have refused to appear and a bench warrant will have been is-

sued for my arrest.

I am a Revolutionary Anarchist

As such, I do not recognize the authority of the State of Pennsylvania judicial system. I refuse to appear before them in order to plea my "innocence". In addition to being absurd, such an act would confer a recognition of legitimacy upon them which I refuse to give. Besides, the court system is simply a tool of the State, and as such, it too is my sworn enemy. Therefore, my necessary relations to it will never be and can never be that of "innocence". To state it plainly, I am *guilty*. *Guilty* of working towards the destruction of that very same court system which seeks to place judgment on me and others. *Guilty* of working towards the absolute demise of the whole life denying State apparatus. *Guilty* of dreaming of a liberated world where wo/men's consciousness and material relations will at last be free to develop creatively in a society of love, equality, abundance and direct participatory democracy. In a word, all I am willing to confer to Pennsylvania, the Federal Government, as well as any and all authoritarian, bureaucratic and inherently oppressive STATES is the absolute hatred and rejection that all

exploited people feel and know towards their natural enemies.

However, let it be known that my hatred runs only as deep as my love for humanity and the dream of complete Social Revolution.

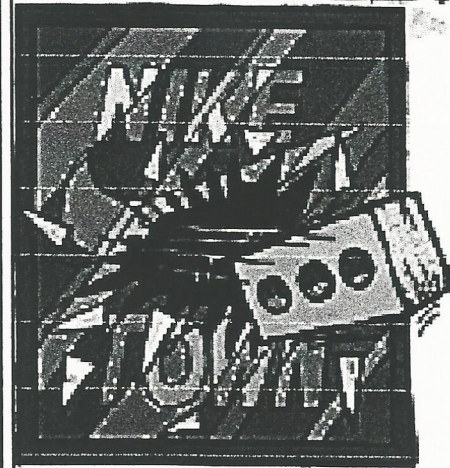
Therefore, I have come to the decision to continue my small role in the ongoing social and political revolution by semi-underground means.

From struggle comes victory and dignity. Strength and courage to the Black Bloc.

--from somewhere in the New American Dawn.

David

**LIFE IS SHORT.
THROW HARD.**



support your local BLACK BLOC!

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR PRAGUE PRISONERS

As we all should know by now, thanks to the spectacular recuperation made by the globalized mass-media, the S26 protests in Prague against the IMF and World Bank were a success. Our European comrades succeeded in seriously disturbing the meeting of the lackey of international capitalism. In the process, the Prague police force completely lost control of the situation and were totally humiliated in the face of millions of viewers world-wide.

As a result, they arrested some 950+ protesters (or individuals who looked like protesters) in the downtown area, beating many in the process (up to 60% according to INPEG, the protest organizer, survey). Most of the arrested people lost all rights --such as a phone call, legal representation, food, water and even sleep, and many were reportedly tortured at the hands of the police. We won't repeat the whole story here, people can judge by themselves by reading available material at prague.indymedia.org and www.ainfos.ca.

As of today (October 9th), thanks to a massive international campaign, all but 16 protesters were released. The fact that only 25 will be prosecuted shows in itself that all of the police repression and violence was baseless and that most people were arrested only because they dared to demonstrate their opposition to global capitalism.

That said, even if the release of the vast majority of the prisoners is in itself a victory, there are still 16 comrades in jail. Among them are 8 anarchist-communists from Budapest, Hungary, who have been charged with 'an attack against a public official' (in this case policemen). According to unofficial information our Czech comrades gave us, the police have no evidence against them. All have a State-appointed lawyer, but because such lawyers have proved inadequate in representing activists in the past, the Czech anarchists have found a new lawyer for them. He will take this case and his work will cost less than is normal, however they will still need money for the defense costs.

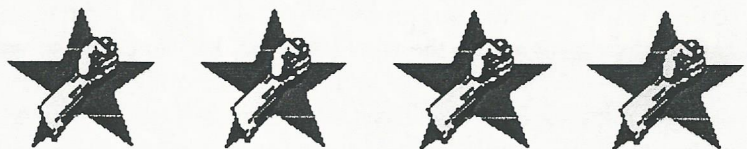
Since these comrades are anarchists, and so suspected of being dangerous trouble-makers (rioters!), we don't expect much support. That is why the Northeastern Federation of Anarcho-Communist (NEFAC) will collect funds to help free these comrades. If we anarchists do not show some basic solidarity, no one else will. In the USA, please send funds to:

Sabate Anarchist Collective
NEFAC International Secretariat
PO Box 230685
Boston, MA 02123
[Check must be earmarked " S26 Solidarity "]

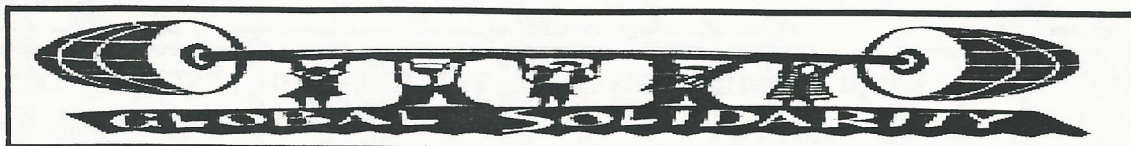
In Canada, please send funds to :
Secrétariat francophone de la NEFAC
Groupe anarchiste Emile-Henry
C.P. 55051, 138 St-Vallier Ouest
Québec, Québec G1K 1J0
Canada

[Check must be made to " Groupe Emile-Henry " and earmarked " S26 Solidarity "]

THEY'RE IN THERE FOR US



WERE OUT HERE FOR THEM



MOBILIZATION

A Call for Anti-Capitalist Action in Cincinnati, OH for N16

We are calling for Revolutionary Anti-Capitalist people to come to Ohio and join us in opposing yet another undemocratic authoritarian structure functioning quietly in peace this year. On November 16th thru 18th the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialog (TABD) will hold their annual CEO meetings in downtown Cincinnati. The TABD has positioned itself as the executive vanguard of the World Trade Organization. They represent the interests of the European Union and North America in the process of the globalization capitalism. These meetings will bring more than 100 CEOs and top government officials together to resolve trade "issues". This body represents the interests of the white, first world, capitalist elite, and exists to impose their collective will, not only the governments and capitalists of other nations, but on the working peoples of the world as well. Anti-capitalists of all backgrounds and philosophies must come together to oppose these authoritarian and exploitive policies and procedures. The TABD is yet another anti-democratic structure in the capitalist elite's march toward unopposed world supremacy.

Along with the WTO, IMF, World Bank, UN, NATO, and NAFTA, the TABD is just one more tool for reducing inter-capitalist conflict, allowing them to better exploit the rest of us.

Many coalitions are calling for actions, rallies, marches, and teach-ins during this latest undemocratic meeting to divide the world's resources and the fruits of all people's labor for the benefit of an elite few. Many of these actions will be legal, permitted, and reformist. Others will be of a non-violent, civil disobedient nature. But regardless of these various coalitions' stances on tactics, none of their political statements represent our views or needs. For this reason, we find it necessary to organize in solidarity with these coalitions, but autonomously, on our own terms and with our own explicitly anti-capitalist analysis.

We are not necessarily calling for any specific tactic aside from revolutionaries visibly standing together against imperialism and exploitation. We feel it is important that we stand apart from the advocates of "fair" trade and green capitalism. Whether it is the TABD or another global capitalist structure, our opposition is the same, we stand with indigenous people and the working class the world over against the facade of "improvements" on global capitalism; capitalism cannot be improved, it must be destroyed. We stand for a bright future, when the fruits of the world's labor are used for the needs of the people that do the producing.

To that end we are against narrow economic nationalism. We refuse to play the game of pitting the working peoples of one nation against the working peoples of another, one state against another, or one eco-system against another. Capital is globalized; the resistance of the working class must be as well.

The first-world business leaders who comprise the TABD think they can quietly meet in a very conservative mid-western city, plan, dine, drink, play, and slip back to their palaces and offices. We aim to show them that even here they will meet resistance. This is why we reach out to anti-capitalist people of all ideological persuasions to join us in our disruption of business as usual in Cincy.

We feel it is important as well to stand together with the rest of the movement in solidarity and opposition, but at the same time visibly apart in our presence and analysis. It is time we spoke out about what we want, both within the anti-globalization movement and to the world at large. It's time for the world to hear the voices behind the masks.

Our place and purpose is to keep resistance solidly anti-capitalist, uncompromising, total, and global. Let the capitalists have no quiet city. Let the forces of reform no longer use us as silent foot soldiers. Let capitalism feel another blow.

We ask other like minded collectives and networks to move quickly to both endorse this proposition and join us in the planning and execution of this action. Join us in showing the capitalist class that the midwest is not their playground, that resistance can happen anywhere, and that revolution is afoot the world over.

Toward the new world we carry in our hearts,
In Solidarity,
ARA Columbus
Kent Anarchist Black Cross

WWW.N16.ORG

Barricada finds the organizers restrictions in terms of actions unfortunate, but the site has good information

BARRICATA #2, DECEMBER 2000: YUGOSLAVIA, THE ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN CONFLICT, US/CUBA RELATIONS, "BEYOND THE GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION AGAINST CAPITALISM, AND MORE